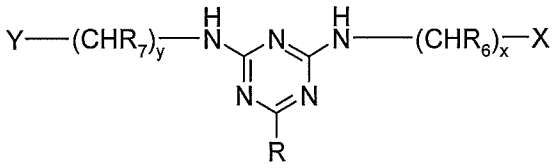
Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented): A method of increasing the depth of shade of dyed natural or synthetic polyamide fibre materials, which comprises treating the fibre material before, during or after dyeing with a liquor comprising a compound of formula (1)



(1)

wherein R is halogen, C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_5-C_{24} aryl, C_6-C_{36} aralkyl, -OR_1 or -NR_1R_2, R_1 and R_2 being, each independently of the other, hydrogen, C_1-C_{12} alkyl unsubstituted or substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, mercapto, carboxyl, sulfo, C_1-C_{12} alkylsulfonyl, C_5-C_{24} arylsulfonyl or C_6-C_{36} aralkylsulfonyl groups, C_5-C_{24} aryl unsubstituted or substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, sulfo, C_1-C_{12} alkylsulfonyl, C_5-C_{24} arylsulfonyl or C_6-C_{36} aralkylsulfonyl groups, or C_6-C_{36} aralkyl unsubstituted or substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, sulfo, C_1-C_{12} alkylsulfonyl, C_5-C_{24} arylsulfonyl or C_6-C_{36} aralkylsulfonyl groups,

X and Y are, each independently of the other, mercapto, or -NR_3R_4, wherein R_3 and R_4 are, each independently of the other, hydrogen or C_1-C_{12} alkyl,

R_6 and R_7 are, each independently of the other, hydrogen or C_1-C_{12} alkyl,

and x and y are, each independently of the other, a number from 2 to 12.

2. (original): A method according to claim 1, which comprises using a compound of formula (1) wherein x and y are the same.

3. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, which comprises using a compound of formula (1) wherein x and y are 3, 4 or 6.

4. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, which comprises using a compound of formula (1) wherein X and Y are the same.

5. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, which comprises using a compound of formula (1) wherein R is a group of formula -NH-$(CHR_8)_z$-Z wherein R_8 is hydrogen or C_1-C_{12} alkyl, Z is hydroxy, mercapto or amino, and z is a number from 2 to 12.

6. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (1) is present in the liquor in an amount of from 0.01 to 15 % by weight, based on the weight of the polyamide fibre material.

7. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the fibre material is treated before the dyeing.

8. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the treatment with the liquor comprising the compound of formula (1) is carried out at a temperature of from 20 to 130°C.

9. (original): A method according to claim 7, wherein the pretreatment is carried out at a pH of from 7 to 13.

10. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the treatment with the liquor comprising the compound of formula (1) is carried out in accordance with the exhaust process.

11. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the polyamide fibre material is in the form of microfibres.

12. (original): A textile adjuvant comprising an aqueous solution of a compound of formula (1) according to claim 1.